

CLAIMS

1. A stay including a first arm (1), a second arm (2) whose basal end part is turnably connected to a leading end part of said first arm (1) between a development position and a folded position, and a lock means (4) disposed between said first arm (1) and said second arm (2), said lock means (4) being switched between a locked state where said second arm (2) can non-turnably be locked in said development position and a released state where said second arm (2) is allowed to turn from said development position toward said folded position, wherein

said stay further includes a retaining means (5) for retaining said lock means (4) in said released state when said second arm (2) is located in said development position.

2. A stay according to claim 1, wherein said lock means (4) includes a lock member (41) movably disposed at said second arm (2) within a predetermined movable range and a lock biasing means (45) for biasing said lock member, when said lock member (41) is moved to a predetermined locked position within said movable range with said second arm (2) located in said development position, said lock member (41) is engaged with said first arm (1) to prohibit said second arm (2) from turning from said development position toward said folded position and when said lock member (41) is moved away from said locked position by a predetermined releasing distance or more with said second arm 2 located in said development position, said lock member (41) is disengaged from said first arm (1) to allow said second arm (2) to turn from said development position toward said folded position, said lock biasing means (45) biasing said lock member (41) toward said locked

position, so that the engaging state of said lock member (41) with said first arm (1) can be maintained.

3. A stay according to claim 2, wherein said retaining means (5) is a movement prohibiting means (5) disposed between selected one of said first and second arms (1), (2) and said lock member (41) and adapted to prohibit said lock member (41) from moving toward said locked position beyond a predetermined release retaining position which is away by more than said releasing distance from said locked position.

4. A stay according to claim 3, wherein said movement prohibiting means (5) is disposed between said first arm (1) and said lock member (41), said movement prohibiting means (5) includes a displacement member (52) disposed at said lock member (41) such that said displacement member (52) can displace between a first position and a second position, a displacement biasing means (53) for biasing said displacement member (52) from said first position toward said second position, a first abutment part (47) disposed at said first arm (1), said first abutment part (47) being abutted with said displacement member (52) so that said displacement member (52) is brought into said first position when said second arm (2) is located at said development position and said lock member (41) is located at said locked position and allowing said displacement member (52) to move to said second position when said lock member (41) is moved beyond said release retaining position, a second abutment part (43) disposed at said lock member (41) and abutted with said displacement member (52) so that said displacement member (52) is brought into said second position against the biasing force of said displacement biasing means (53), and a third abutment part (48) disposed at said first arm (1) and abutted with said

displacement member (52) which is located at said second position, thereby preventing said lock member (41) from moving from said release retaining position toward said locked position.

5. A stay according to claim 4, wherein said first arm (1) is provided with an engagement recess (46) formed therein and partly open, and said first arm (1) is provided with an engagement part (43) formed thereon, said engagement part (43) being brought into engagement with said engagement recess (46) through an opening part of said engagement recess (46) thereby prohibiting said second arm (2) from turning toward said folded position from said development position when said second arm (2) is located at said development position and said lock member (41) is moved from said release retaining position to said locked position.

6. A stay according to claim 5, wherein said first abutment part (47) is formed as an inclination surface (47) which is inclined in such a manner as to approach the opening part of said engagement recess (46) from said locked position toward said release retaining position, and said third abutment part (48) is formed as a leading end part of said inclination surface (47) which is intersected with an end part on the opening side of one side surface (46b) of said engagement recess (46).

7. A stay according to claim 6, wherein said displacement member (52) is turnably disposed at said lock member (41), said engagement part (43) is also used as said second abutment part, said displacement member (52) is abutted with a rear end part, which is away from said engagement recess (46), of said inclination surface (47), thereby causing said displacement member (52) to be located at said first position when

said second arm (2) is located at said development position and said lock member (41) is located at said locked position, said displacement member (52) is slid on said inclination surface (47) and turned toward said second position as said lock member (41) is moved from said locked position toward said release retaining position, and said displacement member (52) is moved beyond said inclination surface (47) and abutted with said engagement part (43) thereby being located at said second position when said lock member (41) reaches said release retaining position.

8. A stay according to claim 7, wherein when said second arm (2) is turned from said folded position toward said development position with said lock member (41) located in a moving limit position toward said first arm (1) within said predetermined movable range, said engagement part (43) is brought into abutment with said inclination surface (47), thereby said lock member (41) is moved toward said release retaining position in accordance with turning movement of said second arm (2) against the biasing force of said lock biasing means (45), and when said second arm (2) reaches said development position, said lock member (41) is moved to said locked position by said lock biasing means (45), thereby said engagement part (43) is inserted into said engagement recess (46) through said opening part of said engagement recess (46).

9. A stay according to claim 8, wherein when said lock member (41) is moved to said locked position by said lock biasing means (45), said displacement member (52) is moved by said inclination surface (47) from said second position to said first position against the biasing force of said displacement biasing means (53).